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2			
3			
4			
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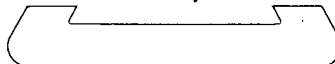
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(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTERPage 1 of 1Attachment to Z-10966/82
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**E-II SSAN
SEVERODVINSK SHIPYARD YAGRY ISLAND, USSR**

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: THE KEEL BLOCK PATTERN ON THE SOUTH SHELF AT SEVERODVINSK SHIPYARD YAGRY ISLAND, FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF THE E-II NUCLEAR-POWERED AUXILIARY SUBMARINE (SSAN), INDICATES THAT A NEW NAVIGATION SYSTEM MAY HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN THIS HIGHLY MODIFIED, POSSIBLE TEST BED SUBMARINE.

2. (S/D) REMARKS: LIGHT SUPPORT BLOCKS, AS OPPOSED TO FULL-WIDTH KEEL BLOCKS, ARE ON THE SHELF OF THE SHIFTLIFTING BASIN SPANNING A DISTANCE OF [REDACTED] ALONG THE HULL AND APPROXIMATELY 7 METERS ACROSS THE BEAM. THESE BLOCKS ARE IN THE APPROXIMATE AREA WHERE THE LOWER HULL PROTRUSION WAS IDENTIFIED ON THE SUBMARINE ON [REDACTED] THE LACK OF SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT IN THIS AREA, COMBINED WITH THE REINFORCED BLOCKS FORWARD AND AFT OF THE AREA, INDICATE THAT A HULL MODIFICATION HAS PROBABLY TAKEN PLACE. THE PRESENCE OF THE SUPPORT BLOCKS, AND THE LACK OF CENTERLINE SUPPORTS SUGGEST THAT THE SUBMARINE'S KEEL IN THIS AREA MAY BE CONCAVE RATHER THAN THE NORMAL FLAT-TO-SLIGHTLY-CONVEX CONFIGURATION.

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(S/D) A CONCAVE SURFACE ON THE KEEL OF THE E-II SSAN COULD HOUSE A SONAR ARRAY WHICH FUNCTIONS AS A SONAR-BASED MARITIME NAVIGATION/POSITION FIXING SYSTEM, USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH CONTOUR MAPS OF THE OCEAN FLOOR. ANOTHER POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THAT THE SUBMARINE COULD BE USED AS A SUBMERSIBLE TRANSPORT.

3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 64-35-20N 039-49-14E

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